

(17.4.76), while waiting for the light to fade so that *Aleucis distinctata* might flit about the little stunted sloes out on the lawn, I picked a bag of *caprea* catkins and the next morning found one full grown *tenuiata* larva, which promptly pupated (emerging 23.6.76). Next spring I returned to this favoured area and obtained another singleton larva from catkins taken from many willow bushes.

From time to time the moth appears at light, usually rather worn, and so serves to show up the rather drab beauties of the bred specimens. Altogether, an enigmatic species.

29. *E. trisignaria* H.-S. Fortunately the larva of this pug is readily identifiable by its black head, because the imago is not at all easy to tell at a glance. It is only very thinly scattered over most southern counties and, even if the odd specimen is taken at light, a careful examination of the local *Angelica* in the following September seldom produces a larva.

However, it is more plentiful in the West Midlands and I am indebted to Philip Sterling for the gift of some pupae from Herefordshire with which to augment my previous very small series.

(To be continued)

FALSEUNCARIA RUFICILIANA HAW. (LEP.: COCHILIDAE)
 BIOLOGY. — Imagines of this species were first noted on Teg Down (V. C. 11) (Royal Winchester Golf Course) on 15th and 18th May 1979, flying in quite large numbers over *Primula veris*. When this area was next visited on 30th May, none were seen. However, on 24th July, it was again flying and specimens appeared quite fresh. The biology as given in Meyrick, *Revised Handbook of British Lepidoptera*; Bradley, Tremewan and Smith, *British Tortricoid Moths*; and Emmet, *Smaller British Lepidoptera*, is ova June and July, larva July to April, hibernating full-fed, and imago May and June. As the observations on Teg Down did not appear to fit this pattern, I visited the area with Dr. J. R. Langmaid on 8th June 1980, and we each gathered a dozen or so seed-heads of *Primula veris* at random. I had earlier noted imagines flying on 19th May. One or two of the seed-heads were opened a few days later and contained fairly mature larvae. Imagines started to appear from my batch on 4th July and over 30 emerged over the following three weeks. The batch kept by Dr. Langmaid was kept indoors and emergences took place a few days earlier than mine. As both 1979 and 1980 were cool summers, the July emergence cannot be put down to abnormally warm weather conditions, and so it must be concluded that the species is bivoltine, at least in this part of the country, and not univoltine as has been accepted previously. It seems unlikely that the larvae resulting from the July moths would feed on *Primula veris*, as the heads which are still left are hard and dry by this time. However, *Pedicularis sylvatica* has been recorded as an alternative food-plant in England, and numerous other plants on the Continent. — Col. D. H. STERLING, "Tangmere" 2 Hampton Lane, Winchester, Hampshire.